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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, D.C. 20520

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November 10, 1980

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MEMORANDUM

TO: S/S-S - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: S/IL - John A. Warnock, Acting

SUBJECT: List of Issues for Transition Briefing Papers

REFERENCE: Your Memorandum of November 7, 1980

The Office of the Special Assistant to the Secretary and Coordinator, International Labor Affairs (S/IL) is the central coordinating point for relations between the Department and the American labor movement. It also has special operational responsibilities for the labor attache program and relations with the Department of Labor.

The American labor movement in general, and the AFL-CIO in particular, have strong views on the conduct of foreign affairs. Although there are no labor issues, as such, requiring immediate decisions in the foreign affairs field, there are labor dimensions to many ongoing policy issues, and in particular:

--labor's evaulation of official US support for human rights, including free trade unionism, in eastern Europe, e.g., Poland and the USSR and elsewhere;

--labor's view of official US positions on trade issues, with particular reference to their impact on our industrial workers and, inter alia, maritime strength.

Similarly, the AFL-CIO has a strong interest in S/IL; and, together with the Department of Labor, in the operations of our labor attache program. In both areas, there will be need for decisions in the coming months. The decisions to be made are:

--the designation of a new Special Assistant to succeed the late FSO Harry Pollak;

--a response to the forthcoming findings and recommendations of the joint State-Labor working group which is studying ways to strengthen the labor attache program.

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Drafted:S/IL:JAWarnock:fl
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